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CLASSIFICATION

COUNTRY

TOPIC

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE PREPARED 25 October 1955

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REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Wittstock airfield between 2 August and 30 September 1955:

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2 August. During the daytime, no air activity was observed at the field. After 2000, there was night flying by jet fighters.

3 August. Throughout the day, jet fighters flew individually and in formations of two and four. From about 2000, until after midnight, night flying was practiced by aircraft with set position lights. Two aircraft were repeatedly observed aloft at the same time. Three searchlights, including one in the vicinity of the field directed their beams to one jet fighter.

5 August. There was air activity throughout the day.

6 August. During the morning, jet fighters practiced flying individually and in elements of two in the vicinity of the field.

10 August. Only one single-engine low-wing monoplane was observed landing.

11 August. An element of two jet fighters took off and subsequently practiced local flying.

15 August. During the morning, no flights were made. During the afternoon, a few local flights were made by jet fighters, which conducted stunt flying including loops and rolls.

17 August. Jet fighters practiced flying in formations of two and four.

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18 August. Only individual flights were made during the morning.

20, 24 and 27 August. Throughout the day, there was formation flying by elements of 2 and formations of 4 and 12, in addition to individual flying in the vicinity of the field. Take-offs by elements of 2 aircraft at close intervals were observed. It was

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noticed once that 6 elements took off in rapid succession. When the first element of 2 aircraft had reached an altitude of about 10 meters, the next element took off. About 15 to 20 minutes after the take-off, 12 aircraft flying in wedge formation crossed over the field at an altitude of 1,000 meters. The formation dispersed approximately in line with Berlinchen. At first, the left formation of 4 aircraft separated from formation while flying a left-hand circuit. Then followed the middle formation, and at last the right formation which slightly enlarged the circuit. Subsequently, the 3 formations of 4 aircraft, each dispersed to line-abreast formation. The landings were made individually and in rapid succession.

22 August. During the afternoon, several jet fighters made individual flights.

23 August. Flights were made by individual aircraft and formations of three and four.

29 August and 1 September. Jet fighters made individual local flights. It was noticed during air activity that 2 of the jet fighters were each equipped with 2 pitot tubes. A pitot tube was on each wing; located at a point, which was about a third of the length of the wing, away from the tip.

6 September. There was air activity by individual aircraft and elements of two.

7 September. From 2000 until about midnight, it was heard from the sound of engines that flying was practiced in the vicinity of the field.

9 and 10 September. During the morning, flying was practiced by jet fighters.

20 September. Throughout the day, jet fighters flew individually and in elements of two. It was noticed that the only aircraft not equipped with auxiliary fuel tanks were those, which were making individual flights.

21 September. During the morning, individual local flights and formation flights in elements of two were observed. During the afternoon, formations of 10 and 11 aircraft crossed over the field.

23 September. Jet fighters made individual flights and formation flights of up to 12 aircraft. A total of about 36 jet fighters were stationed at the field. The hangars were open, but it could not be observed if additional aircraft were parked in these hangars. At about 1515, jet fighters [redacted] approached for landing. [redacted]

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The 4 aircraft of the alert formation were arranged in a line at the eastern end of the runway with the noses pointed to the east. A fifth aircraft was parked slightly apart from the alert formation. Two or 3 motor vehicles were parked near the alert aircraft. Vehicular traffic was observed between the hangars and the eastern end of the runway, while personnel traffic was seen between the temporary buildings near the eastern end of the runway and the alert aircraft. Red fire trucks were observed in front of the hangars.

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26 September. No air activity by jet fighters was observed. Individual take-offs were made by several high-wing monoplane and biplanes.

27 and 28 September. Jet fighters practiced flying in formations of up to 4.

29 September. At 1030, 2 formations of 12 jet fighters each crossed over the field at short intervals. After the formations dispersed, the aircraft landed individually. Throughout the day, formation flying by 2 and 4 aircraft was practiced.

30 September. No air activity was observed. At 1600, only 17 jet fighters and 2 biplanes were counted on the landing field.

2. A disccone-type antenna was observed on the small hill between the Red Mill Inn which was used as quartering facility and the airfield. Three additional masts were seen nearby but no details could be observed; due to the distance of surveillance. On 30 September, the Token-type set was still observed on Hockstaedter Mountain and a Fishnet-type set was located nearby.
3. On 30 September, 6 x 37-mm AA guns were seen in the AA gun emplacement in the southwestern corner of the landing field. Five of the guns were covered with tarpaulins, and the barrel of the sixth gun was elevated. Five or 6 soldiers were observed around the guns.
4. Between 1130 and 1300 on 25 August, no air activity was observed at the airfield. A total of 30 to 35 jet fighters and 1 Li-2 were observed on the landing field and 6 Il-28s were parked in 6 revetments next to each other. The latter aircraft had red lids on their air intake apertures. Mechanics wearing coveralls were seen around the aircraft.
5. On 25 August, 4 wooden masts about 15 meters high and 35 meters apart were located on an elevation about 300 meters south of the westernmost hangar. The masts were braced and interconnected by antennas. In the middle of the square of masts were 2 wooden barracks which were partially built into the hill.
6. An AA gun emplacement with 37-mm AA guns with muzzle brakes was seen in the southwestern corner of the field. A total of 20 to 25 soldiers were observed in the emplacement.

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1. Comment. It is believed that Wittstock airfield is still occupied by 1 fighter regiment. As was also observed at other fighter airfields in the Soviet zone Germany, mostly, formation flying was practiced at Wittstock airfield. A total of 35 to 38 jet fighters were observed on the landing field. The increased aircraft strength is apparently connected with the re-equipment of the regiment with MiG-17s. Eight or 9 Il-28s have previously been involved in army exercises.

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2. Comment. The PKW-45 station south of the westernmost hangar was reported for the first time. The other information on the radio installations were received previously.
3. Comment. The AA gun emplacement has been repeatedly confirmed.

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